

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.(original) A barrier laminate (1) comprising barrier and planarisation materials, characterized in that said barrier laminate (1) contains at least one discontinuous layer (4) of a planarisation material, which layer is divided into unconnected areas (5) distributed along the plane.

2.(original) A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1, wherein said unconnected areas (5) are separated by regions (6) of a barrier material.

3.(currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1
~~or 2~~, wherein said planarisation material is an organic material.

4.(currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to claim 1
~~or 2~~, wherein said planarisation material is a combination of organic and inorganic materials.

5.(currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to ~~any one~~
~~of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said barrier material is an inorganic material.

6. (currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to ~~any one~~
~~of the claims 2-5~~Claim 2, wherein said regions (6) of a barrier
material forms a checked pattern.

7. (currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to ~~any one~~
~~of the preceding claims~~claim 1, further comprising at least one
continuous layer (3) of a barrier material.

8. (currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to ~~any one~~
~~of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said discontinuous layer
(4) is arranged between two continuous layers (3) of a barrier
material.

9. (currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to ~~any one~~
~~of the preceding claims~~claim 1, further comprising at least one
continuous layer (2) of a planarisation material.

10. (currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to ~~any one~~
~~of the previous claims~~claim 1, wherein said planarisation material
is a polymeric material.

11. (currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to ~~any one~~
~~of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said planarisation material
is selected from the group consisting of parylene, acrylates,
epoxides, urethanes, spin-on dielectrics, and siloxanes.

12. (currently amended) A barrier laminate (1) according to ~~any one~~
~~of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said barrier material is
selected from the group consisting of are SiO₂, SiC, Si₃N₄, TiO₂
HfO₂, Y₂O₃, Ta₂O₅, and Al₂O₃.

13. (currently amended) Use of a barrier laminate (1) according to
~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1 as an oxygen and/or water
impermeable film.

14. (original) A method for the manufacture of a discontinuous layer
(4) in a barrier laminate (1) comprising:

- depositing a continuous layer of a planarisation material,
- removing regions of said layer of a planarisation material,
and
- filling said regions with a barrier material.

15. (original) A method for the manufacture of a discontinuous layer
(4) in a barrier laminate (1) comprising:

- depositing a patterned layer of a planarisation material, whereby regions where no planarisation material is deposited are formed, and
- filling said regions with a barrier material.

16. (currently amended) A method according to claim 15~~or 16~~, wherein said filling of said regions with a barrier material is performed simultaneously as the deposition of a continuous layer of a barrier material on said discontinuous layer.

17. (currently amended) An electronic device, or more particular electroluminescent device, having active layers and a barrier laminate (1) according to any one of the claims 1 to 12~~claim 1~~ positioned over the active layers, the laminate having a discontinuous layer (4) which is, among the layers of the laminate containing planarisation material, the one closest to the active layers of said electroluminescent device.